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USDA Club News

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DALLAS, TEXAS, USA.

IT'S A Texas Fact!

Texas has had its "frontier terrors" and its "law and order" men. Like everything else Texan, they were not just ordinary men but a bit special. Our story concerns "Bigfoot" Wallace, Texas badman, and Captain Frank Hamer, of the Texas Rangers, so fearless it was said of him that he would "charge Hell with a
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E E M S

SALUTATION TO THE DAWN!

Look to this day!
For it is Life--the very essence
of life.
In its brief course lie all the
verities,
All the realities, of existence;
The bliss of growth--
The glory of action--
The splendor of beauty.
For Yesterday is but a dream,
And Tomorrow is but a vision,
But Today--well-lived--makes
every Yesterday
A dream of happiness, and every
Tomorrow
A Vision of hope:

Look well, therefore, to this
day!

---Selected.

* * * * *

Be as careful of what you say
about others as if it were someone
else saying it--about you!

Helen Quisenberry Member of the Month.

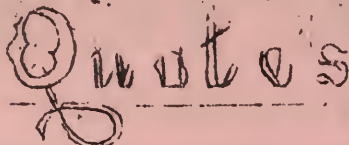
By unanimous vote of the USDA Club Board of Directors Mrs. Helen Quisenberry was the "Member of the Month" choice for May. She is employed in the Area Finance Office of Farmers Home Administration, Communications & Records Management Section. "Helen", as she is known to practically everyone in the FHA organization, won the award partly on certain specific contributions to USDA in general, and partly on her "always-willing-to-help" attitude towards any USDA project. In the words of the person who placed her name in nomination, "Her graciousness and willingness to serve on any committee or in any capacity for the good of USDA employees is

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Suggestions Pay Off!

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's "Employee Suggestions Program" is snowballing in a big and beneficial way! Big in that it has paid out in cash awards almost twice as much in the fiscal year just ending as in 1950, with a saving to the government of almost 7 times what it was in 1950. This reflects a growing interest on the part of USDA employees and indicates that more and more are taking advantage of the chance to help themselves while helping their boss.

The Department awarded over \$13,000 to employees for suggestions in 1951 as compared to \$7,000 in 1950. The total number of suggestions for both years was over 700. This information has been furnished the Bureau of the Budget. They are making a government compilation which will be furnished to the National Association of Suggestion Systems for their over-all report.



"The fact that you are employed by the National government does not lessen your responsibility as a citizen of your community!"...From a speech made before a NFFE Local in Milwaukee by the Hon. Robert Ramspeck, Chairman of Civil Service Commission.

* * * * *

WHAT WE CAN DO:::-

The loose talk set off by careless tongues by misinformed people who label all government workers "taxeaters" and "bureaucrats" can be effectively silenced or answered if we take the following advice of Mr. Ramspeck:

1. Let EACH of us set an example of devotion to duty and pride in our work.
2. Let EACH of us speak up in a positive, constructive way, to give our neighbors and associates the real facts about our job and the things the government is doing.
3. Let EACH of us make our own gripes specific, and make them to responsible people in our agency whose duty it is to correct bad situations.
4. Let EACH of us do our full part in the life of our community--over and above what we do on the job.

JUNE JITTERS!

Ah June! Month of beautiful brides, delectable garden delicacies, and fiscal fidgets! Will we get paid?...Will the RIF get me?... Will the new budget be approved...or cut?... We in the Federal service have come to expect some of these vicissitudes in our annual package of uncertainties coming along at this time of the year. Fortunately, this year has been better than usual. Worst about over. Moving seems to be the most pressing item for some. FHA will move the Area Finance Office from McKinney Avenue to the Lowich Building, on South Ervay, about the last of June. Anyone else moving please drop a note to the editor, 912 S.Ervay to keep his mail list current. News contributions, also.

LAST CALL FOR THE PARTY!!!

With the big USDA party just a few days off we would like to remind everyone to get those tickets as soon as possible in order for the committee in charge of arrangements to be able to let Eubanks know in time for them to plan and prepare for the correct number. Every indication points to a most enjoyable affair. Those arranging for it are the type who wouldn't be satisfied with anything less. For the kiddies there will be a 75¢ ticket. Anyone old enough to shave will not count on the kiddie side of the ledger. Putting the children's tickets out a bit late might have been an oversight but we are inclined to believe the committee proceeded on the assumption that the "eats" would taste too good for anyone---even the small fry--to be satisfied with anything less than a "king-size" portion. If you haven't purchased those tickets it'll soon be too late. SEE YOUR SUPERVISOR!

A few facts about the party: It will start at 7:30 and wind up when everyone is run down. Dancing will begin at 9 o'clock or thereabouts. Plenty of room inside and outside. Airconditioned by refrigeration. To help us get acquainted the heads of each USDA agency will be asked to respond to the master of ceremonies' introduction. No longwinded speeches allowed! Music by Charley Godwin prominent accordionist from WFAA. Johnnie Milner will furnish guitar flavored music with a western motif.

AGAIN WE URGE EVERYONE TO GET TICKETS BY MONDAY the 23rd at the very latest, if possible to do so. Those unable to furnish transportation please call Ri-6951, station 508, or 848. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

The USDA Club News is published monthly at 2007 McKinney Avenue. Send news contributions to that address, or telephone the editor at Ri-6951, extension 2044.

JAMES L. (Jimmy) HYLES, EDITOR.

"MEMBER OF THE MONTH"...From page one.

equalled by few and surpassed by no one in USDA ranks." Incidentally, she is as well known in PMA as she is in FHA--almost--and it was a PMA employee who placed her name in nomination.

Helen received her education in local schools, and attended Ursuline Academy two years. She was a star basketball player during her school years and afterward, playing for a local organization that sponsored a girls team. Her first job in private industry was with Titche-Goettinger Co, working in the stockroom, and later as saleslady. Her father still works for the store, holding down a trusted and responsible position there. Helen's period of service with Titche-Goettinger were from 1923 to 1926, with a brief time out for family reasons and then back to Titche's as full-fledged saleslady, until 1932. Just about the time Roosevelt took over the nation's banks Helen transferred to Volk Bros., remaining in the lingerie department until September, 1942, which was her E.O. B. date with Farmers Home Administration, (then Farm Security) in the Mail and Files section. She has held various positions there, including assistant Chief Supervisor of Client's Case Records unit. Being of an inquiring frame of mind Helen probably knows as much about procedure from the inception to the payment of a loan

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Myths versus Facts

THE MYTH: A sweeping generalization sometimes applied to Federal employees is the charge that they are "mediocre".

The Fact; As one example of this so-called "mediocrity" government analytical chemists and other scientists in USDA's Eastern research laboratory of the Bureau of Agricultural and Industrial Chemistry CONTRIBUTED TO A SAVING OF OVER TEN MILLION DOLLARS by licking an operational problem in the production of synthetic rubber. The Aluminum Co. of America and Bell Telephone Laboratories are 2 highly respected names in the field of private industrial research. They do not subscribe to the "mediocre" tag for our USDA scientists, who have made many contributions both valuable and badly needed by these industrial organizations. Government research is made for the good of all of us, however and is never commercialized for the benefit of a few.

as anyone in the organization. Part of her time is spent "looking up something" for someone in another unit or from the Texas State Office. Folks down there "ask Helen" to check a folder or F.O. payment even when such information could just as well be given by someone else. This facet of her character exemplifies her philosophy of "service to others" and is one of the reasons why everyone has a liking for our new Member of the Month. We wish we might stop here but as we go to press we must report that she has entered the hospital for surgery. However, since she has spent several weeks "getting in the right frame of mind" we are all hoping for a quick recovery and early return to the job.

↑ Too late for the last issue is the news regarding the transfer of Verlon Twaddell from FHA to GSA. His departure left a vacancy on the Work of the Department Committee and this has been filled by the appointment of Mr. Wendell Pickering who will take over as the new Chairman. SEND YOUR NOMINATIONS FOR MEMBER OF THE MONTH TO MR. PICKERING. DO IT TODAY!

A TEXAS FACT . . . (From Page 1)

bucket of water" . Like all good Texas Rangers who wanted to stay alive Captain Hamer was a crack shot. While we are not certain it was Captain Hamer who was the hero of the tale we're going to spin, he'll do until the right hombre comes along. It has to do with how "Big-foot" Wallace got his nick-name. It seems that one black moonless night Wallace was shooting up a saloon down Old San Antone way. Captain Hamer was bivouacked outside the saloon on his way back to Ranger headquarters in Austin. When the shooting emptied the saloon of its human derelicts Hamer arrived on the scene with drawn six-guns and barged through the swinging doors. Inside all was so quiet you could have heard a Scotchman say "I'm payin'!" Suddenly the sharp ears of the Ranger caught the unmistakable click of six-guns being cocked. The sound came from behind and to the side. Too late to whirl and shoot, with a split-second separating him from death the Captain threw down on a steel beer cask setting behind the bar. His judgement of angles was perfect. The bullets from his guns ricocheted around the inside of the barrel and were deflected out of the bunghole directly into the mean carcass of the badman. Unfortunately for mankind in general, and saloon habitues in particular, the bullets hit no vital spot. Anatomically speaking, they hit just astern of his southernmost lumbar vertebra, galvanizing him into action. With Hamer's stern words, "Get out of Texas!" ringing in his ears, he dived through a window and was off to the races. Word of his progress kept filtering back...He had made a bee-line for Beeville, and hours later his furious pace had carried him past Falfurrias, and, still hitting the high spots, he was bracketed between Harlingen and Brownsville just before morning. Crossing the Mexican border at sunrise, his feet had swollen to the size of outsize bloomers. He was still traveling so fast he ran down a squad of Mexican Rurales before they could shout "Hombre-ago!"

It's A Texas Fact, that's how he came to be known as "Big-foot" Wallace.

F O R S A L E ! TYPEWRITER, PERFECT CONDITION. Remington Rand Portable, Noiseless...A real bargain at \$50.00
HARRIET WILLIAMS, Station 2045 (Ri-6951)

Did You Know...

There are more Grade 3 employees in the GS Clerical-Administrative classification than any other, next in order comes grade 2, grade 4 and 5. There are more 9s than 8s and twice as many 7s as 6s. Out of over a million employees there are only about 45 in grade 18. Who said there's no room at the top!

RECENT WINNERS IN USDA'S SUGGESTIONS PROGRAM:---

PMA: IVAN C. CAUTHEN, HELEN BROODO, WILMA A. GRAY AND JOHN T. MURPHY
Ivan was high winner with an award of \$130.00 just as he was placed on military furlough. Helen Broodo and Wilma Gray have since resigned. Incidentally, a supplemental award of \$10.00 was made to Wilma after it was found that her suggestion would be adopted by the New York office, also, Her original award was \$15.

FHA winners are:- Mary M. Bangs, Velma A. Brewer, Betty S. Day, George Huggins, Grace H. Jetton, Irene J. Scott, Billy N. Scheulen, and M. Eleanor Tinsley. Eleanor is a four-time winner, having received 3 other awards for suggestions. **THEY REALLY PAY OFF!**

Top award winner to date of FHA employees is James Farmer whose idea simplifying the filing of material in third-cut folders was put into effect in all 4 of FHA's Area Offices. Shortly after James received his check he transferred to another section and was deprived of the pleasure of working in the files after his streamlining idea had been put into effect. Likewise, he got out just in time to escape the extra work required to change over to third cut folders exclusively.